

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-08

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NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 L-03 TRSE-00 /054 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8624

USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TANANARIVE 1907

SECSTATE FOR: MR. WILLIAM H. LEWIS, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF
INTER AFRICAN AFFAIRS; AND MR. RICHARD CASTRODALE, AF/E

USDOC FOR: MR. RAUER MEYER, DIRECTOR OF EXPORT ADMINISTRA-
TION; AND MS. JEAN NELSON, CHIEF OF POLICY PLANNING

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP, EINV, MA, US

SUBJECT: GDRM PURCHASE OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT

1. THE FOLLOWING TEXT OF IDENTICAL LETTERS TO SECRETARY
OF STATE AND SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FROM GDRM MINISTER OF
TRANSPORTATION IS TRANSMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF THE GDRM
AND LOCKHEED REPS PRESENTLY IN DRM. SIGNED ORIGINALS OF
LETTERS WILL BE POUCHED. (BEGIN TEXT) DEAR MR. SECRETARY:
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR, AS REPRESENTED BY
THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM, IS CURRENTLY
IN NEGOTIATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOCKHEED
GEORGIA COMPANY, MANUFACTURER OF THE LOCKHEED L-100-20
HERCULES COMMERCIAL CARGO AIRPLANE, THE DESIRE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM
TO PURCHASE TWO L-100-20 HERCULES HAS BEEN CONFIRMED TO
LOCKHEED BY MY LETTER OF INTENT DATED 8 NOVEMBER, 1976.
THESE AIRCRAFT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH THE FMC MAFFS FOREST
FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM AND ALSO WILL BE CERTIFIED BY THE FAA
TO CARRY SEVENTY-FIVE PAYING PASSENGERS. MY MINISTRY
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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF USE FOR

THE AIRCRAFT AND REQUESTS YOUR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF ITS CONTENTS TOWARD THE GRANTING OF A LICENSE FOR THE EXPORT OF THESE AIRCRAFT AND ASSOCIATED SPARE PARTS AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR. STATEMENT OF USE: THE EXPRESSED PURPOSE FOR UTILIZATION OF LOCKHEED HERCULES PURCHASED BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR IS PRIMARILY THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF MAFFS SYSTEM TO FIGHT FOREST FIRES WHICH FREQUENTLY ARE RAMPANT DURING LAST QUARTER OF ANY YEAR AND CONSEQUENTLY STRONG DESIRE FOR EARLIEST DELIVERY AT BEGINNING OF FOURTH QUARTER 1977. AIRCRAFT WILL ALSO BE UTILIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH AIR MADAGASCAR, NATIONAL AIRLINE, INTERNAL SERVICES WHERE SURFACE TRANSPORT IS LACKING TO DETRIMENT OF DEVELOPING ECONOMY. AIRCRAFT WILL ALSO BE UTILIZED FOR GOVERNMENT VIP TRANSPORT IN CONJUNCTION WITH SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL AIRLINE SCHEDULES WHERE NEEDED AND IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL SOLIDARITY. AIRCRAFT WILL ALSO BE UTILIZED IN COMMERCIAL CARGO AND FOOD TRANSPORT IN-COUNTRY WHERE SURFACE, ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT, INADEQUATE TO HANDLE VOLUME AND TIME INTERVAL REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY. SURFACE TRANSPORT A GREAT PROBLEM IN COUNTRY WITH ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT INADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN MINIMAL SUPPLIES IN SUPPORT OF INFRASTRUCTURE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MY MINISTRY'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOCKHEED WILL CONCLUDE WITH THE SIGNING OF A PURCHASE CONTRACT PRIOR TO 30 NOVEMBER 1976 WHICH WILL ALLOW DELIVERY OF THE AIRCRAFT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1977. THE REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY DELIVERY IS GENERATED BY THE SERIOUS NEED TO HAVE THE AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED AND IN MADAGASCAR DURING THE PERIOD WHEN FOREST FIRES GENERALLY OCCUR. (END OF STATEMENT OF USE) MY GOVERNMENT THEREFORE REQUESTS EARLY FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF ITS APPLICATION FOR THE EXPORT LICENSE WHICH THIS STATEMENT SUPPORTS. I THANK YOU MR. SECRETARY FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER. (SIGNED BY) THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM.

2. TEXT OF LETTER IS BEING TRANSMITTED HERewith ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE SEC-GEN, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, WHO HAS ASSURED US THAT ORIGINAL LETTER SIGNED BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION WILL BE FORWARDED BY MFA NOTE VERBALE ASAP. UNCLASSIFIED

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LOCKHEED REPS IN TANANARIVE ARE TRANSMITTING TEXT OF LETTER VIA COMMERCIAL CHANNELS TO LOCKHEED REPS WASHINGTON AND GEORGIA.SHEINBAUM

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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